Merchant Shipping Act which in turn would lead to decline in the Indian Tonnage from the present level of about 7 million Gross Tonnage.

Utilization of funds allocated for welfare of SCs/STs

4053. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated to different States for the welfare of SCs/STs under the Centrally sponsored schemes during the last two years have not been properly utilised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Instances of misuse of scholarship funds during the last two years, as reported by concerned State Governments, are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Details of Cases
1.	Andhra Pradesh	One instance was reported in respect of S.V.P. College, involving an amount of Rs. 1,00,630/-.
2.	Uttar Pradesh	As per the report for the year 1999-2000 eight headmasters were suspended, recognition of thirty-seven schools cancelled and that FIRs were lodged. Scholarship amount has also been recovered from sixty-two schools. In the year 2000-2001 from April to June 2000, two district level officers and thirteen officials have been suspended. FIRs have been lodged in 32 cases.